

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound 20 nucleobases in length, or a salt thereof, targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B, wherein said compound (1) is fully complementary to the nucleotide sequence within the range of nucleotides 157 to 13820 of set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 excluding the start codon region; (2) comprises a plurality of nucleosides having modified sugar moieties and a plurality of nucleosides having phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages; ~~and~~ (3) demonstrates ~~at least 70%~~ greater than 80% reduction of apolipoprotein B mRNA levels when applied in vitro at a concentration of 150nM to HepG2 cells; and (4) is not a ribozyme.
- 2-7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 comprising at least one modified nucleobase.
9. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
10. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound is a chimeric oligonucleotide.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the long form of apolipoprotein B, ApoB-100.

21-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is the salt of the oligonucleotide compound.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides ~~1 to 103 or 157 to 14121~~ 182 to 13820 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides ~~1 to 79 or 182 to 14121~~ 716 to 9950 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2' substituted sugar moiety or a bicyclic sugar moiety.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the 2' substituted sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the bicyclic sugar moiety is a locked nucleic acid.

36-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, having
- a gap segment of ten linked 2'-deoxynucleosides,  
a 5' wing segment of five linked nucleosides, and  
a 3' wing segment of five linked nucleosides,
- wherein the gap segment is positioned between the 5' wing segment and the 3' wing segment, wherein each nucleoside of each wing segment comprises a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar modification, and wherein each internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage.
41. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, said compound comprising at least one cytosine, wherein each cytosine is a 5-methylcytosine.
42. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the bicyclic sugar moiety has a  $(-\text{CH}_2-)_n$  group forming a bridge between the 2' oxygen and the 4' carbon atoms of the sugar ring, wherein n is 1 or 2.
43. (Currently Amended) The ~~non-catalytic~~ oligonucleotide compound of claim 28, wherein the salt is a sodium salt.